but none can driue him from the enuious plea
of forfaiture, of iuſtice, and his bond.

Ieſſi. When I was with him, I haue heard him ſweare
to *Tuball* and to *Chus*, his country-men,
that he would rather haue *Anthonios* fleſh
then twentie times the value of the ſumme
that he did owe him: and I know my lord,
if law, authoritie, and power denie not,
it will goe hard with poore *Anthonio*.

Por. Is it your deere friend that is thus in trouble?

Baſſ. The deereſt friend to me, the kindeſt man,
the beſt conditiond and vnwearied ſpirit
in dooing curteſies: and one in whom
the auncient Romaine honour more appeares
then any that drawes breath in *Italie*.

Por. What ſumme owes he the Iew?

Baſſ. For me three thouſand ducats.

Por. What no more, pay him ſix thouſand, & deface the bond;
double ſixe thouſand, and then treble that,
before a friend of this diſcription
ſhall loſe a haire through *Baſſanios* fault.
Firſt goe with me to Church, and call me wife,
and then away to Venice to your friend:
for neuer ſhall you lie by *Portias* ſide
vvith an vnquiet ſoule. You ſhall haue gold
to pay the petty debt twenty times ouer.
When it is payd, bring your true friend along,
my mayd *Nerriſſa*, and my ſelfe meane time
vvill liue as maydes and widdowes; come away,
for you ſhall hence vpon your wedding day:
bid your freends welcome, ſhow a merry cheere,
ſince you are deere bought, I will loue you deere.
But let me heare the letter of your friend.

Sweet Baſſanio, *my ſhips haue all miſcaried, my Creditors grow*
cruell, my eſtate is very low, my bond to the Iewe is forfaite, and ſince in
paying it, it is impoſſible I ſhould liue, all debts are cleerd betweene you
and

and I if I might but ſee you at my dea
ſure, if your loue do not perſwade you

Por. O loue! diſpatch all buſine
Baſſ. Since *I* haue your good lea
I will make haſt; but till I come ag
no bed ſhall ere be guiltie of my ſta
nor reſt be interpoſer twixt vs twai

Enter the *Iew*, and *Sale*
and the

Iew. Iaylor, looke to him, tell n
this is the foole that lent out money
Iaylor, looke to him.

Ant. Heare me yet good *Shyloc*

Iew. Ile haue my bond, ſpeake n
I haue ſworne an oath, that I will h
thou call'dſt me dogge before thou
but ſince I am a dog, beware my pl
the Duke ſhall graunt me iuſtice, *I*
thou naughtie *Iaylor* that thou art ſ
to come abroade with him at his re

An. I pray thee heare me ſpeak

Iew. Ile haue my bond. I will no
Ile haue my bond, and therefore ſp
Ile not be made a ſoft and dull eyde
to ſhake the head, relent, and ſigh,
to chriſtian interceſſers; follow not
Ile haue no ſpeaking, *I* will haue m

Sol. It is the moſt impenitrable
that euer kept with men.

An. Let him alone,
Ile follow him no more with bootl

WILLIAM SHAKESPEARE *Merchant of Venice* (STC 22296) LONDON, 1600 THE BRITISH LIBRARY (C